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shows great fidelity and industry in research, and the work will undoubtedly be valuable to those who are required to investigate the early land law of New York. A work of this character indicates with startling clearness how close, after all, we are to the Middle Ages.

W. H. L.

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CASES ON CONSTITUTIONAL LAW, WITH NOTES. By JAMES BRADLEY THAYER, LL.D. In two volumes. Cambridge: Charles W. Sever. 1895.

The last parts of this work do not disappoint the expectation arising from the perusal of the first part, which was reviewed in 33 AM. LAW REG. & REV. 410. Part III deals with cases on the right of Eminent Domain and Taxation, and Part IV with *Ex post facto* laws, State laws impairing the obligation of contracts, the regulation of commerce, money, war, insurrection and military law. With Part IV is published a very good index of the entire work. It goes without saying that the cases are excellently selected, and that one who possesses this work of Prof. THAYER's has, in a small compass, all the principal cases dealing with the Constitution of the United States, besides a collection of valuable notes, references and excerpts from the principal text books and historical documents. There is little, indeed, that is left to be desired, except that one would have wished the editor to have sometimes given his own views, at least so far as to call the reader's attention to the discrepancy, if any, or the real conflict between many of the reported decisions. Outside the law school, only those who are fond of Constitutional Law will possess this book or read the cases there referred to, and to them it would have been a matter of great interest to know what one, who has given the time and attention to the subject, thinks concerning the various doctrines of Constitutional Law laid down by the cases reported. For instance, in looking at Dartmouth College Case, we would not have objected to have the editor give his own opinion on the different points of Marshall's argument. Again, we would like to have heard what Prof. THAYER would have to say on the opinion in *Weston v. City*

of *Charlestown*, that a state tax on incomes from personal property, in so far as they fall on the income from United States bonds, is unconstitutional. The case, perhaps, did not seem of such vital importance when decided, and yet, to-day it has a special interest, not only because of its important bearing on the recent income tax decision, but from the fact that in other countries, such as Germany, where a state tax on the operations of the Federal government would be void, it has been decided that a general tax, which includes investments in the funds of the Federal government, is objectionable.

We must remember, however, that this collection of cases is primarily for the students of the Harvard Law School, and that the theory of the case system adopted by that school is to have the students read the original cases and think out the points involved for themselves, without too great reliance on the aid of text books or suggestive editorial notes. To any one who is doing any work on Constitutional Law, these cases will be invaluable, as they will enable him to carry around with him two-thirds of the material which he needs in a small and convenient compass.

W. D. L.

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THE UNITED STATES INCOME TAX LAW SIMPLIFIED FOR BUSINESS MEN. 3d Ed. Enlarged and Revised. By FREDERICK A. WYMAN. 1895.

THE INCOME TAX LAW. Arranged with Annotations. By FRANCIS B. BRACKEN, assisted by EUSTACE GRIMES. Philadelphia: Kay & Bro. 1895.

The fact that the Income Tax Law no longer graces (?) the Statute Books of this country, is no reason why the very excellent, and had the law been allowed to stand, practical little books of Mr. FREDERICK A. WYMAN and of Messrs. FRANCIS B. BRACKEN and EUSTACE GRIMES should be regarded as valueless. Both these books, like the others upon the same subject, which have already been noticed in these pages, are exceedingly well done, and lawyers would do well to put them away on their shelves for a possible future use. Their